## Some Suggestions

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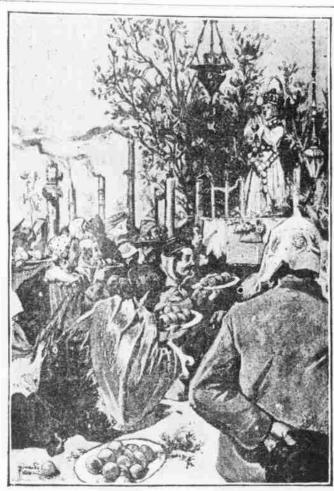


the regular elergy living in mo- cance,

tery pictures disappeared from the durches, but many of the Christmas fliustrations had acquired such a firm iold upon the popular heart that they remained and have been brought down to the present day in a somewhat modifled form. Such is the "Bambino," which is seen today in all parts of the Obristian world and which has come was rare and confined mostly to to possess almost a ritualistic signifi-

rars of Hildical representation in the

communities, it became the Another Christmas mystery which in to illustrate the gospel narra-still survives, although its perpetuation This squaint and decidedly impressive Christinstructing the unlettered mas ceremonial known as "the offerfrom the old heathen ling." This custom has been repeated and the monks and nuns for centuries on Christmus day in the evised the plous scheme made churches of the Italian highlands. It effort to impure a reverential un. Is illustrative of the visit of the mag!



In the thirteenth century, however, the tiny gardens and offer them devoutly use that the clergy began to frown the Lord of the barvest.

This is the origin of the mystery or little boy is chosen to represent the It was thus that the great features feet. A crowd of peasants, both men the Christian religion were made in- and women, clad in festival attire and telligible to the public. The practice | wearing the picture-sque head coverbegan early in the tenth century and lings of the Tuscan mountaineers, bring grew in favor for at least 200 years, oranges and pomegranates from their ustom had become so subject to to the weary little representative of

the mistletoe.

With face so arch and eye of

and let her go.
O mistletoe!

blue, And I, distraught, what could

Rank coward I turned round

From every nook and corner blazed the light;

Each one waxed bold as forth she came udain,

bough

insane.

And e'er her golden hair the

Of witchery hung. My hour I caught and kissed her like a man

Eyes gleamed like stars in matchless ray. Yet ne'er an eye of black or gray Shone full and soft as hers that old year night.

O wondrous light!

O happy swain!



She neither screamed nor smiled nor chid me then. But brushed her cheek like

thistledown. And then a tiny, childish frown Came 'twist her brows, "Atlast!" cried she, "Oh, Ben, Slowest of men!"

No ear but mine heard that imperious blame. The crowd had passed. We twain stood there In perfect bliss, without a care, And o'er and o'er I breathed her

perfumed name-O Rose affame! The joy bells rang. The old year crept away. Lusty and young the new year

stood.

Aglow with promise, life and blood. Ah, never was such night or holi-For all they say!

A Queer Festival. A queer festival is celebrated in Matables take a large share. At the er with all the contents. At large same of money, amounting to several thousands of dollars, was subscribed, larges sands of dollars, was subscribed, larges when new.—G. S. Street in London Outlier.



Are Large Houses Vnigart Are large houses yulgar? Certainly on every ten or twelve years. The a parvenu who should build himself a opening of the festival is signalized by house the size of Chatsworth or Raby and procession, in which huge piles would be vulgar, as lacking a sense of proportion in a matter of taste. The all of the third day the viands are inheritors of such places are of course rned. On the last occasion the piles | not vulgar to live in them, though they of food were placed in a specially condrieted load which was lowed out to mous houses survive the time of neceson and there consumed by fire, togeth- sary retainers and a warlike state. seg and there consumer at large sum. They are useless for all modern our-

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